



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Patent and Trademark Office**

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/202,107	03/08/99	MURAMATSU	E 93195-000082

HARNESS DICKEY & PIERCE  
PO BOX 828  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS MI 48303

MM92/0425

EXAMINER
----------

NGUYEN, D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2871

DATE MAILED: 04/25/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
09/202,107

Applicant(s)  
Muramatsu

Examiner  
Dung Nguyen

Art Unit  
2871



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 1.5

- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Art Unit: 2871

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Information Disclosure Statement*

1. The information disclosure statement filed 12/18/1998 (for PCT/JP98/01804) fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) because the JP Patent No. 56-22473 does not include a concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56© most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of each patent listed that is not in the English language. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

PCT  
sic ✓

### *Specification*

2. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Art Unit: 2871

4. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 8, it is confusing and unclear what "a peripheral circuit disposed between said first and second substrate overboard of said seal" (added emphasis) means. Correction to the language is suggested to clarify the claimed subject matter.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1, 5-7, 10-13, 17-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Applicants submitted prior art, Kamakura, JP 52-27398.

15, 13, 17-18, 20  
The above claims are anticipated by Kamakura's figure 1 which disclose a display unit comprising:

- . a substrate (1 or 2);
- . an alignment layer inherently formed on the substrate;
- . a rub resistance (4) disposed on a peripheral circuit of the substrate (2) to change a voltage;

Art Unit: 2871

. a first sealant member inherently formed between two substrates (1 and 2) to bond two substrates to each other.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 3-4 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants submitted prior art, Kamakura, JP 52-27398.

Regarding claims 3-4 and 15, Kamakura discloses the claimed invention as described above except for a based material of the resistance (i.e., ITO). One of ordinary skill in the art would have realized desired to form a resistance having a same material as that of electrodes of a display unit. Therefore, it would have obvious to one skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to form the Kamakura's resistance having the same material as that of electrodes of the display unit because such process reduces the manufacturing cost of the LCD device since only a single process is needed to form both a resistance and electrodes.

Regarding claim 16, although Kamakura do not disclose the resistance can be controlled by a pattern of the resistance, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to control the resistance by a pattern of the resistance since the

Art Unit: 2871

examiner takes Official Notice of the equivalent of changing the resistance value by moving a slide contact (i.e., potentiometer) or laser (i.e., resistance pattern) for their use in the electric circuit art and the selection of any of these known equivalents to adjust the value of the resistance would be within the level of ordinary skill in the art.

9. Claims <sup>2, 8-9, 13 & 19</sup>~~34 and 35~~ are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants submitted prior art, Kamakura, JP 52-27398, in view of Nonomura et al., US Patent No. 4,385,292.

Regarding claims 2, 8-9, 13 and 19, Kamakura discloses the claimed invention as described above except for a driving IC directly mounted on the substrate of the display unit and a second sealant member formed outboard of the peripheral circuit. Nonomura et al. do disclose a driving IC (thin film) and a second sealant member (63) directly forming on one of a pair of the substrates (51, 61) of the display unit (figure 9). Therefore, it would have obvious to one skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the Kamakura's unit having a driving IC which directly disposed on a substrate of the display unit as well as an outboard sealing which surrounded the driving IC as shown by Nonomura et al. in order to reduce a number of a connection as well as to protect a peripheral circuit in a display unit (see col. 9).

### *Conclusion*


10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Art Unit: 2871

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Dung Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-0423. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7722.

Any information of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

DN  
04/21/2001

  
William L. Sikes  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Group 2871